



# Saint Luke Lutheran Church

1807 Field Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55116 | 651-698-9443 | [saintlukechurch.org](http://saintlukechurch.org)

## October 2023 Newsletter



### *The Pastor's Perspective*

### *Pr. Bristol Reading*

#### **Daily Bread: Practices of Receiving and Giving**

After God rescued the ancient Israelites from slavery in Egypt, they wandered in the wilderness for decades, awaiting the time when they could settle in a new homeland. We've been reading this story from Exodus during our Sunday morning worship in recent weeks. As the people wandered, God provided for them. God provided leadership, to help them discern the way forward. God provided protection, to keep them safe from harm. God provided sustenance, in the form of a strange new food that appeared like seeds on the ground each morning. The Israelites called it "manna," which literally means "What is this?" (See Ex. 16:1-15) God had provided for them in a way they never could have imagined, in a way so new to them they didn't even know what to name it.

There was an interesting catch to the manna, though. The people could only collect enough for each day's needs. They couldn't store it up for later, or leave it on the ground for another day; it would just go bad. Each day's provision was enough for that day and that day alone. The next day they would have to get up and rely on God's provision all over again. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to "Give us this day our daily bread," another reminder that we need God's continual provision day by day by day.

Praying each day for God to provide cultivates in us a heart posture of gratitude. All that we have comes from God! When we fear that tomorrow might bring scarcity, we can be reminded that we put our trust in a good and faithful God who will keep showing up for us as each day comes. We are called to steward well the gifts we have today and to trust in God for what we will need tomorrow.

It's not only our receiving that works this way, but also our

### *October Worship Volunteers*

**Thanks for your participation!**

#### **IN PERSON USHERS**

**First and Second Sundays:**

Volker Landenberger

**Third and Fourth Sundays:**

Mike and Nancy Hegdahl

#### **ONLINE USHERS**

1st Sunday: David Tews

2nd Sunday: Sue McNeill

3rd Sunday: Raulie Ruiz

4th Sunday: David NedreLOW

#### **OFFERING COUNTERS**

1 Katy Eggert

8 Julie Gaarder

15 Kay Reich

22 Sue McNeill

30 Joyce Bluel

#### **SCRIPTURE READERS**

1 Emily Elfritz

8 Kay Reich

15 Christine Olson

22 Sue McNeill

29 Wendy Bjorklund

#### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

1 Emily Elfritz

8 Kay Reich

15 Christine Olson

22 Doug Klein

20 Wendy Bjorklund

#### **ALTAR GUILD**

Julie Gaarder

*giving*. There's a reason we talk about financial stewardship every year. Just as our prayer for "daily bread" reminds us that we continually rely on God's provision, our annual stewardship campaign reminds us that we are continually invited into a life of generosity in response to all that God has given us. We don't give once and never think about it again. Generosity is an on-going act of faithfulness, a regular practice of gratitude. God provides for us every day, so we are called to give and share every day – over and over again.

As we enter our fall stewardship campaign this month, I hope you will be able to think about your giving as a regular practice, the way you might think about praying for daily bread or saying a prayer of thankfulness before meals. You might be tempted to think, "I've heard all this before. I already know about stewardship!" But it's worth talking about again because it is part of our vocation as people of faith. You might be tempted to think, "Nothing really changes year to year about my giving. Why are we talking about this again?" But if you pay attention, you might find that God is up to something new in your life, something surprising and mysterious like manna.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 5, when we'll hold our annual meeting after worship and Sunday, November 19, when we'll celebrate during worship the generosity of St. Luke and all the ministry it makes possible.



**Blessing of the Animals, September 24, 2023**  
*In His hand is the life of every living thing. -Job 12:10*



### ***Loaves and Fishes***

Our heartfelt thanks to our September volunteers: David Tews, Larry Litzkow and Volker Landenberger



### ***Bun Run***

Many thanks to our Bun Run volunteers for October: Doug Klein, Kay Reich, Julie Ellingson, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl.

### ***October Birthdays***

- 5 Laurie Smith
- 7 Alek Landenberger
- 9 Mike Hegdahl
- 10 Ava Herrmann
- 15 Charlotte Ulrich
- 18 Magnolia Reading
- 21 Jack Holtz
- 22 Bev Eckstrom

### ***October Anniversaries***

- 7 Kent & Beth Peterson: 1989
- 10 Mike & Nancy Hegdahl: 1992
- 24 Doug & Jo Klein: 1981



***All are invited to Game Day at St. Luke,*** the first and third Fridays of the month, October 6 and 20, at 12:30pm. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us!



October is prime time for marveling at the multicolored beauty of the changing leaves, whether on a scenic drive in the country or on a walk through the neighborhood. God is the ultimate artist!

October also brings a full schedule of events to St. Luke this year. Saturday, Oct. 7 marks the end of the **Farmers' Market** season. Thanks to Wendy Bjorklund and the many other volunteers who worked so hard to make it happen again this year.

The following Saturday, Oct. 14, is the much-anticipated return of St. Luke's **Fall Bazaar**. There will be lots of tasty food to enjoy, locally made crafts for purchase, and bargains to hunt for in the rummage sale. If you haven't already volunteered to help and have time, talk to Nancy Hegdahl or Sue Grzywinski, or check out the sign-up sheets at church to see where more help is needed.

And then there's the **Fall Retreat** on Saturday, Oct. 21 at the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center near Farmington. About a dozen people have already signed up, but we're extending the registration deadline to Sunday, Oct. 8 in case more people are interested. It should be a great day of fellowship with one another in a beautiful natural setting. Flyers and registration forms are at the back table at church.

And finally, we wind down the month by hosting a **joint service** with our friends from St. Mark on Oct. 29, Reformation Sunday. Bring a dish to share at the potluck brunch after the service. There's always good food at these events!

Looking ahead to November, mark your calendars for the **annual congregational meeting** that will be held Sunday, Nov. 5 after the service. The agenda includes:

~Minutes from last year's congregational meeting.

~Reports from our treasurer Joyce Bluel, Pastor Bristol, and the president (me), and a Farmers' Market report from Wendy Bjorklund

~Election of the 2024 church council members. Note that we need at least one candidate to run for secretary, given that Kay Reich has elected to step down from the council. (Thank you, Kay, for serving on the council for so many years!)

*Join us for St. Luke Book Club, Sunday Oct. 29, 6:30pm, via Zoom, to discuss "Apples Never Fall", a mystery by Liane Moriarty. "A wifty tale of domestic suspense, and a satisfying, layered family drama where the tension comes from the treachery of memory, and the effects of decades' worth of unspoken resentments. Moriarty once again shows her mastery with the inner workings of women."—The New York Times Book Review. The Zoom invite will be emailed to you the week before. All are welcome!*



### *Notes from the Music Director*

Our hymn votes are in and you can check out the results on [St. Luke's blog](#). What songs differ from previous lists or songbooks? What stayed the same? I hope you have fun checking out the results! And as always, thanks for participating. We'll make sure to include these hymns in the next year!

-Becca Ruiz

### *All Saints Day*

Sunday, Nov. 5 is our annual All Saints Day worship service at St. Luke. We will be honoring those who have passed away since our last ASD service. During this service we observe a Rite of Remembrance, in which we read the names of the deceased one by one, and as each name is read, a family member or friend of the deceased may come forward to light a candle to honor their loved



~2024 Budget to be approved by the congregation. (Copies of the budget will be available for review at least two weeks prior to the meeting.)

~Amendments to our constitution that require approval by the congregation. All of the changes resulted from changes the ELCA made in 2022 to the standard language in church constitutions. You should already have received an email with the proposed changes. If you have questions about any of the changes, let me know.

Thank you all for making St. Luke a special congregation!

Yours in Christ, David Tews

***Pastor's Study:  
"Civic Life and Faith"***

September 7 to October 12, Thursdays at 7:00 pm  
via [this Zoom link](#).

Pr. Bristol is currently leading a study on the topic of Civic Life and Faith Thursday evenings. You can join as many sessions as you're able. Each week will include time for group discussion, so your perspective will be a valued contribution. We will be following a curriculum designed by the ELCA as part of its development of a new social statement. Click [here](#) to learn more and see the curriculum.

**Session 1 (Sept 7):**

"How Is God's Invitation to Discipleship Lived Out in a Democracy?"

**Session 2 (Sept 14):**

"How Do Christians Address Controversial Civic Issues?"

**Session 3 (Sept 21):**

"What Are Lutheran Views on Civic Life?"

**Session 4 (Sept 28):**

"What Are the Objectives of Democracy in the United States?"

**Session 5 (Oct 5):**

"What's Faith-based Living Got to Do With Civic Life?"

**Session 6 (Oct 12):**

"How Do We Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord in Civic Life?"

***Pastor Bristol has written a series of devotions***

based on the assigned scripture readings for October and November. Each devotion is paired with a suggestion for a simple spiritual practice you can try. It is posted on our [website](#), or you may pick up a printed copy in the back of the sanctuary

one. (If no one comes forward, the Pastor lights the candle.) We invite you to participate in this special service. If you have a family member or friend that you wish to honor on All Saints Day, please contact Administrator Jo Klein at [jojoklein@gmail.com](mailto:jojoklein@gmail.com) so that she may add the name of your loved one to the list.

***Youth Holiday Gifts***

Your Council has voted to "go local" again this year and support homeless youth in the Twin Cities over the holidays. Lutheran Social Services sponsors a program for homeless youth called "Youth Holiday Gifts." This is a gift program of LSS Metro Homeless Youth Services. **We will be collecting gifts on Sundays, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26 and 12/3.** The gifts will be delivered in early December. Gifts should be UNWRAPPED! A list of desired holiday gifts is available in the Social Hall or click [here](#) for details. You are a warm, giving congregation; I'm confident we can offer gifts to these young people who are in need. Please contact me with any questions or concerns! Wendy Bjorklund 651-357-5742, [wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu)

***Farmer's Market Thank You***

Dear St. Luke Friends,

Thanks to all of you for supporting the St. Luke's Farmers' Market this season. This includes your "jar donations" over the summer, which enabled us to redo our easel signs (based on Dave Tews' design). Our attendance numbers continue to exceed pre-pandemic levels, although they were lower, in



### ***Our Fall Bazaar is fast approaching,***

October 14 - 9:30 am to 3:00 pm, be sure to invite your friends and family for a fun filled day! Lots of exciting new and returning vendors, homemade goodies, and our famous chili will return to St. Luke. Thank you to all of you who have signed up to volunteer we couldn't do this without each and everyone of you! Thank you.

**Kitchen...**The aroma of garlic has been in the air at St. Luke, thanks to the Chili Chicks (Beth Peterson, Jo Klein, Tracy Arndt, Barb Jenson, Wendy Bjorklund, Christine Olson, and Julie Ellingson) for making the chili. If you would like to donate a different kind of soup or an apple crisp, apple or pumpkin pie or if you are able to help in the kitchen please let Sue or Nancy know. Thanks to Beth Peterson for heading up the kitchen detail.

**Rummage Sale Collection...** Next Sunday at noon is the last day to get your items in for the rummage sale. If you are doing your fall cleaning don't forget about the rummage sale as a place to donate. Just remember we will not be accepting any clothing, furniture, electronics or exercise equipment. If you are able to help clean up at the end of the day please be sure to let Mike Hegdahl know. Thanks to Mike Hegdahl for heading up the rummage sale.

**Bake Sale...**Please bring your baked goods to church from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM on Friday, October 13. If you need help transporting your baked goods to church or if you have any questions, please let Nancy or Sue know. Thanks to Deb Vigdal for heading up the bake sale and to all of your for your generous donations.

#### **Suggested Guidelines:**

Fast selling items each year are ethnic foods (lefse, krumkake, stollen, etc.), sweet rolls, coffee cakes, candies (fudge, etc.), sweet breads and yeast breads, jams and jellies, and PIES. Cookies, bars, cakes, muffins and cupcakes also do well.

Please prepackage your bakery donations as follows:

- 6 cookies per package
- 4 cupcakes or muffins per package
- 12 candies per package, cut 1" x 1"
- 6 rich bars per package, cut 1" x 2"
- 6 cake bars or sheet cake per package, cut 2" x 2"

All frosted items should be placed in a single layer. If you cannot package your baked good, we'll be glad to do it for

general, than last season's. The road construction made it difficult to get to us, particularly from the north. That said, the number of customers per week ranged from 151 to 239, which is solid attendance. The market offers a welcome and appreciated service to our community.

The market requires 4 volunteers per shift (plus Laurie and me). Laurie and I are in the EBT/debit/credit card booth, two volunteers work the bread booth, and two volunteers greet customers at the main entrance, "dog-sit" pets not allowed within the parameters of the market and count the customers that enter the market. Set up and take down requires "all hands-on deck!" DrumHeart from the Women's Drum Center (featuring our own Jo Klein) performed one week, and Bob Hoffman played his flute from 10:30am-noon weekly.

I want to specifically thank this summer's volunteers. As market Co-Managers, Laurie Herrmann and I were there most Saturdays, as was Doug Klein who is our "set up master" and chief customer greeter. MANY of you volunteered multiple Saturdays (Kay Reich and Conie Borchardt each volunteered 10+ times) and without your willingness to do so, the market couldn't have happened. At the risk of missing someone (if I do, I'm truly sorry), this is the list of our market volunteers: Kay Reich, Conie Borchardt, Sue McNeill, John Halla, Abby Winecke, Beth Peterson, Barb Jensen, Joyce Bluel, Carol Hornung, Emily Elfritz, Abby Lawton, Ken McGrew, Jodi and Volker Landenberger, Christine Olson, Claudia Melbye, Nancy Redlin, Tracy Arndt, Janelle Jurek, Julie

you. Please use disposable pans; or be sure to label your personal pans with your name. Please label your baked donations with the name of the item. The Bake Sale Committee will do the pricing.

### ***Coming up this fall at St. Luke***

Saturday, 10/14: Fall Bazaar

Saturday, 10/21: Retreat at Mount Olivet Retreat Center

Sunday, 10/29: Reformation Day

Shared worship with St. Mark at St. Luke, and Potluck

Sunday, 11/5: All Saints' Day and Annual Meeting

Wednesday, 11/22: Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

### ***Faith Formation for Kids***

On Sunday mornings, 8:45 to 9:15 am, all ages (including parents) are welcome to come and play, create, sing, and learn together



Gaarder, Jo Klein, Kim McNamara, and Julie Ellingson. If you don't recognize a name, some volunteers are neighbors or friends of our members. Hugs to you all!

ALL OF THIS WORK YIELDED GREAT RESULTS! We have retained our past customers and have seen several new faces. Although we lost one vendor this season (wild critters ate all of Casa Varani's flowers this spring), we also gained four: The Belated Bloom by Joe and Crew (potted perennials in the spring and cut flowers through late August), Expectancy Coffee, KriKri Dot (hand painted cards, etc.) and Sunny Slope Bees (honey and pickled veggies). Green Acres Beef was back for several weeks. We now have 13 vendors (never all at once) plus the EBT/debit/credit card booth.

Finally, I want to thank Jo Klein and Becca Ruiz for publicizing the market on our website and through social media. Thank you, Jo, for also helping to recruit volunteers each week. The market is NOT an individual effort. It takes all of us to make the market a success each year.

As I've said before, the market is my "happy place." This group of people, including our volunteers, customers, and vendors, truly has become a community. As we prepare for our next season, I wish you good health and much happiness. Thank you, thank you, thank you! I look forward to seeing you at the market!

Best, Wendy Bjorklund

***Connect, Grow and Serve.***